



## Presentence Investigations

Presentence Investigations provide written reports to the Judge with information on individuals who have entered a plea or been found guilty of a criminal offense. Probation officers conduct a presentence investigation by gathering case information and interviewing defendants and other individuals familiar with the case. At a minimum, the presentence report contains the following information: law enforcement's version of the offense(s); the defendant's statement; victim's comments and restitution amounts; attorney's statements; risk assessment information; the defendant's personal and criminal history; and the presentence investigator's impressions. State-approved evidence-based assessment tools are administered to determine appropriate interventions should the individual be sentenced to probation. The defendant's appropriateness for specific probation programs is also evaluated. The probation officer then creates a comprehensive report for the Judge that contains an unbiased, evidence-based sentencing recommendation.

